



MINUTES
OCONEE COUNTY COUNCIL MEETING
Regular Meeting
August 3, 2010

MEMBERS, OCONEE COUNTY COUNCIL

Mr. Reg Dexter, District V, Council Chairman
Mr. Joel Thrift, District IV, Vice Chairman
Mr. Wayne McCall, District II, Chairman Pro Tem
Mr. Paul Corbeil, District I
Mr. Mario Suarez, District III

Oconee County Council met on Tuesday, August 3, 2010 at 6:00 PM in Council Chambers, 415 South Pine Street, Walhalla, SC with all Council Members, Adam Artigliere County Attorney and Clerk to Council, Elizabeth G. Hulse present.

Press: Pursuant to the Freedom of Information Act, notice of the meeting, date, time, place of meeting and agenda were posted on the bulletin board at the County Administrative Offices, 415 South Pine Street, Walhalla, SC, and the County Council website [www.oconeese.com/council]. In addition it was made available [*upon request*] to the newspapers, radio stations, television stations and concerned citizens.

Member of the press present: Ray Chandler – Anderson Independent, Ashton Hester – Keowee Courier, Dick Mangrum – WGOG Radio & Carlos Galarza - Daily Journal.

Call to Order:

Mr. Dexter called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

Public Comment Session:

Mr. Larry Linsin addressed Council voicing concerns that Ordinance #2010-29 does not have sufficient detail for public review and comment. He requested that information be provided well in advance of the public hearing and third and final reading.

Mr. Jim Codner addressed Council in support for Ordinance #2010-21.

Mr. Berry Nichols addressed Council in opposition to Ordinance #2010-29 stating that the county has land not being utilized and that purchasing additional property was not appropriate.

Mr. Glen McPheeters addressed Council reading from a prepared statement [filed with these minutes] in opposition to the construction of the Fibrowatt Incinerator to be located in Hart County, Georgia.

Mr. Jeff Soowal addressed Council regarding an ongoing matter related to BRC road [providing Council with a copy of an email – filed with these minutes] and appropriate encroachment permits.

Mr. John Adams addressed Council in opposition to Ordinance #2010-29.

Mr. B. J. Littleton addressed Council regarding concerns that a new jail will be too expensive and his opposition to the county's adoption of building codes.

Extended Public Comment Session:

None at this meeting.

County Council Response to Public Comment:

Mr. Thrift stated that the BRC road issue will be addressed for further discussion at the next Transportation Committee which is the appropriate venue.

Mr. Corbeil addressed issues related to the construction of a new jail; highlighting the history and recent reports to council. He clearly stated that no decisions have been reached. The report from Carter Goble Lee was based on Mosley Architects drawings. Mr. Corbeil also noted that the public will be included in all discussions regarding scope and cost of the project.

Mr. Corbeil also addressed concerns that Council is not transparent enough. He read from a portion of two Newsweek articles [June 14 & July 5, 2010 – filed with these minutes] as part of the discussion regarding transparency.

Mr. Suarez noted that the public concerns regarding the purchase of property will be addressed by Council. Specifically he noted that the property considered for purchase on Highway 11 would be ideal for some time of county wide recreation facility.

Mr. Dexter briefly discussed the proposed Fibrowatt facility in Hart County, GA. He noted that he has received letters and phone calls from both concerned citizens and Hart County officials. A meeting will take place on Friday, August 6, 2010 in Townville to further discuss this matter.

Meeting Recess:

Mr. Dexter recessed the meeting to 6:44 p.m.

Meeting Reconvene:

Mr. Dexter reconvened the meeting to 7:00 p.m.

Pledge of Allegiance:

Mr. Suarez led the pledge of allegiance to the United States Flag.

Minutes:

Mr. Thrift made a motion, seconded by Mr. McCall, approved 4 – 0 [Mr Corbeil abstained [form filed with these minutes] as he was not in attendance at the meeting] that the minutes from the July 20, 2010 regular meeting be adopted as printed.

Mr. Corbeil made a motion, seconded by Mr. Thrift, approved 4 – 0 [Mr. Suarez abstained [form filed with these minutes] as he was not in attendance at the meeting] that the minutes from the July 27, 2010 workshop meeting be adopted as printed.

Consideration of the Following Ordinances:

Ordinance 2010-14

Mr. Corbeil made a motion, seconded by Mr. Thrift, to approve **Ordinance 2010-14** AN ORDINANCE TO REQUEST DEFERRAL OF THE FORMULATION OF A REFERENDUM BALLOT QUESTION BY THE CAPITAL PROJECTS SALES TAX COMMISSION OF OCONEE COUNTY, SOUTH CAROLINA; TO AMEND CHAPTER 2, ARTICLE IV OF THE CODE OF ORDINANCES OF OCONEE COUNTY PERTAINING TO COMMITTEES IN ORDER TO ESTABLISH THE CAPITAL PROJECTS COMMITTEE; AND OTHER MATTERS RELATED THERETO. Discussion followed.

Mr. Corbeil made a motion, seconded by Mr. Thrift, approved 5 – 0 to amend the caption as follows for **Ordinance 2010-14** AN ORDINANCE TO REQUEST DEFERRAL OF THE FORMULATION OF A REFERENDUM BALLOT QUESTION BY THE CAPITAL PROJECTS SALES TAX COMMISSION OF OCONEE COUNTY, SOUTH CAROLINA; TO AMEND CHAPTER 2, ARTICLE IV OF THE CODE OF ORDINANCES OF OCONEE COUNTY PERTAINING TO COMMITTEES IN ORDER TO ESTABLISH THE CAPITAL PROJECTS

ADVISORY COMMITTEE; AND OTHER MATTERS RELATED THERETO.

Mr. Dexter called for the vote. Council approved 5 – 0 **Ordinance 2010-14** AN ORDINANCE TO REQUEST DEFERRAL OF THE FORMULATION OF A REFERENDUM BALLOT QUESTION BY THE CAPITAL PROJECTS SALES TAX COMMISSION OF OCONEE COUNTY, SOUTH CAROLINA; TO AMEND CHAPTER 2, ARTICLE IV OF THE CODE OF ORDINANCES OF OCONEE COUNTY PERTAINING TO COMMITTEES IN ORDER TO ESTABLISH THE CAPITAL PROJECTS ADVISORY COMMITTEE; AND OTHER MATTERS RELATED THERETO” on second reading as amended.

Ordinance 2010-21

Mr. Corbeil made a motion, seconded by Mr. Thrift, approved 5 – 0 to approve **Ordinance 2010-21** “AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND THE OCONEE COUNTY ZONING ENABLING ORDINANCE, ORDINANCE 2007-18, IN CERTAIN LIMITED REGARDS AND PARTICULARS, ONLY, TO ESTABLISH THE AGRICULTURAL RESIDENTIAL DISTRICT AND THE PUBLIC AND RECREATIONAL LANDS DISTRICT, AND ALL RELATED USES, STANDARDS AND REQUIREMENTS; AND TO RATIFY AND AFFIRM ALL OTHER PROVISIONS OF ORDINANCE 2007-18 NOT AMENDED OR MODIFIED HEREBY; AND OTHER MATTERS RELATING THERETO” on second reading.

Ordinance 2010-29

Mr. McCall stated that part of this ordinance deals with land to potentially be utilized by industry as it is close to sewer and water. Mr. Suarez noted that tourism is a thriving industry in Oconee County and that the property should be considered for various uses. Mr. Corbeil noted that Council will provide for public review a minimum of one week in advance a final version of this ordinance to include specific property locations, costs, etc.

Mr. Corbeil made a motion, seconded by Mr. Thrift, approved 5 – 0 to approve **Ordinance 2010-29** AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE PURCHASE OF CERTAIN OCONEE COUNTY REAL PROPERTY, CONTINGENT ON THE SATISFACTORY COMPLETION OF ALL DUE DILIGENCE AND CONTRACTUAL REQUIREMENTS ESTABLISHED BY OCONEE COUNTY TO THE SATISFACTION OF OCONEE COUNTY COUNCIL; AUTHORIZING THE COMPLETION OF SUCH DUE DILIGENCE AND CONTRACTS; AUTHORIZING THE RECEIPT OF ALL LAWFUL FUNDS AUTHORIZED FOR SUCH PURCHASES; AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTION AND DELIVER OF ALL CONTRACTS, INTERGOVERNMENTAL AGREEMENTS AND OTHER DOCUMENTS REALTED TO SUCH PRUCHASES; AUTHORIZING THE AMENDMENT OF THE CURRENT OCONEE COUNTY BUDGTET ORDINANCE TO PROVIDE ACCOUNTING AND FUNDING THE TOTAL COSTS OF CONTRACTING FOR AND PURCHASING SUCH PROPERTIES; AND OTHER MATERS RELATED THERETO” on second reading.

Discussion & Possible Action Items:

Prior to discussion of action items, Mr. Dexter read a statement prepared by the County Administrator, Mr. Moulder as follows:

In both 2006 and 2008, the Western Piedmont Regional Emergency Management Task Force was honored with the prestigious Barrett Lawrimore Regional Cooperation Award, presented by the South Carolina Association of Counties. This year, the task force is, once again, in the top running for this prestigious award. As the County Administrator for Oconee County, it is an honor to be a part of such a strong dedicated and knowledgeable team such as the one created by the counties of Anderson, Abbeville, Oconee, Pickens and Greenwood for the sole purpose of citizen and public safety.

To show my support for the outstanding service committed by these counties to emergency management, public safety and regional cooperation, I will be in attendance at the awards banquet Tuesday, August 3, 2010 to stand and join our partnering counties as we anticipate another award-winning year for the Western Piedmont Regional Emergency Management Task Force.

Bid 09-21 / \$129,182 / Second Roll-Off Truck with Hoist & Tarp System Solid Waste

Mr. Thrift made a motion, seconded by Mr. McCall, approved 5 – 0 to award Bid 09-21 for Solid Waste for a second Roll-Off Truck with Hoist and Tarp System to Nu-Life Environmental, Inc. of Easley, SC, in the amount of \$129,182.00.

Local ATAX / not to exceed \$1,700 / Advertising in AAA magazine

Mr. Suarez made a motion, seconded by Mr. Corbeil, approved 5 – 0 to approve up to \$1,700 for advertising [1/6 page ad for six issues over the next year] in the AAA Magazine.

Board & Commission Appointments:

None scheduled for this meeting.

Commission & Board Reports to Council:

None scheduled for this meeting.

Council Committee Reports:

Planning & Economic Development Committee:

Mr. Corbeil highlighted discussion held

at the July 8, 2010 meeting [summary statement filed with these minute].

Real Estate, Facilities & Land Management Committee:

Mr. Suarez noted that a meeting

was held on July 10, 2010 and that matter related to the real estate purchase in Ordinance #2020-29 were discussed in Executive Session.

Administrator’s Report:

No Administrator Report was provided at this meeting

Old Business:

No Old Business was discussed at this meeting.

New Business:

Institute of Government for County Officials Graduation

Mr. Dexter stated that he wished to announce that the Clerk to Council, Beth Hulse, had graduated from Level 1, Institute of Government for County Officials at the SCAC Annual Conference the past weekend. He noted that this requires the official to attend 27 contact hours of instruction composed of six required courses [18 contact hours] and any three elective courses [9 contact hours]. He stated that this achievement is a benefit to Oconee County to have the Clerk knowledgeable on state and county government.

Ms. Hulse, Clerk to Council, also noted that the Chairman, Mr. Dexter graduated from the Institute of Government, Level 1, at the SCAC conference.

Executive Session:

The Executive Session scheduled was cancelled as not needed.

Adjourn:

Mr. McCall made a motion at 7:36 p.m. to adjourn the meeting. The motion was approved unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted:

Elizabeth G. Hulse
Clerk to Council